APPARATUS AND METHOD TO PROVIDE FAILOVER PROTECTION TO A DATA

STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL SYSTEM

Abstract Of The Disclosure

An accessor moveably disposed in a data storage and retrieval system, where that

5   accessor includes an accessor controller, a work queue stored in the accessor controller, and an

inventory stored in the accessor controller. Applicants' work queue comprises each work request

provided to the data storage and retrieval system, and each work entry created by the accessor

controller to perform a work request. Work requests may be received from attached host

computer systems, from an operator input station, and/or from an import/export controller. A

10   data storage and retrieval system which includes at least two of Applicant's accessors. A method

to provide failover protection to Applicant's data storage and retrieval system in the event of a

failure of one or more of Applicant's accessors.